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<u>PATENT</u>

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July 13, 2001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3C879 U.S. PT 09/905338 09/905338

In re application of:

Michael I. Watkins and Richard B. Edwards

Application No.:

Filed: Herewith

For: MULTIPLEX FLOW ASSAYS PREFERABLY WITH MAGNETIC PARTICLES AS SOLID PHASE

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and

§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

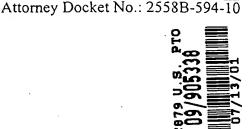
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the related patent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/302,920 filed April 30, 1999, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120. Applicants respectfully request that the references supplied in compliance with 37 CFR 1.87 in the above-referenced parent application, as well as those cited during its examination,, be made of record. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement, as well as the PTO Form 1449 filed in the parent application is attached. Copies of the documents will be found in the above-referenced parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Henry Heines Reg. No. 28,219

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San Francisco, California 94111-3834

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of the Search/Examination report issued in the corresponding PCT application. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and

Michael I. Watkins and Richard B. Edwards Application No.: Page 2

no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Henry Heines Reg. No. 28,219

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